

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the matter of:)	
Application No. 2003-01)	
)	
SAGEBRUSH POWER PARTNERS, LLC,)	Public Comment Meeting
)	
KITTITAS VALLEY WIND POWER PROJECT)	Pages 1 - 59
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A public meeting in the above matter was held in the presence of a court reporter on September 21, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., at Kittitas County Fairgrounds, 512 North Poplar Street, Home Arts Building, in Ellensburg, Washington before Energy Facility Site Evaluation Councilmembers.

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JUDGE TOREM: Good evening and welcome. My name is Adam Torem. I'm an Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Administrative Hearings for the State of Washington, and I'm here tonight to conduct the last of the three public comment meetings, the second one in a row here in Ellensburg on behalf of the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project.

This is Application No. 2003-01 before the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council or EFSEC. As you know, we had adjudicative hearings here in town all this week. We were able to wrap those up today. Tonight is the public comment session that's the last one scheduled, and, again, I want to remind you the record in this matter won't close until a week from tomorrow, next week Friday,

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 September 29. So if you hear something tonight and you've 2 already spoken at one of the other public comment sessions 3 and you feel you need to still get some additional 4 comments into us or you simply don't want to come to the 5 microphone tonight, you still have until next Friday so 6 long as those comments are received in Olympia and that 7 can be by e-mail as well. By next Friday they will be 8 included in the record, and these fine folks gathered 9 around me will in fact read them.</p> <p>10 Let me introduce the EFSEC Council. Many of 11 you are familiar with their names already, but for the 12 record, to my right is Chairman Jim Luce, and to his right 13 is the Tim Sweeney, Utilities and Transportation; Hedia 14 Adelsman, Department of Ecology; and Patti Johnson from 15 Kittitas County. To my immediate left is Councilmember 16 Chris Smith Towne from the Department of Fish and 17 Wildlife, and Dick Fryhling is representing Community 18 Trade and Economic Development and Judy Wilson from the 19 Department of--</p> <p>20 MS. WILSON: --Natural Resources. 21 JUDGE TOREM: Natural Resources. Thank you. 22 I butchered that last night as well. 23 (Microphone making noises.) 24 JUDGE TOREM: Are we back on? Okay. I'll 25 try not to break it again.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 So I don't forget to do this later tonight, 2 I've been asked and I know now some of you may leave after 3 you speak. If folks are interested in what happens after 4 this and after the record closes next Friday and want to 5 know if there will be any further communication between 6 the Applicant, between the County, between EFSEC staff, 7 and these decision makers, the answer is no.</p> <p>8 This is a little bit different process than 9 perhaps what was perceived before your Board of County 10 Commissioners. This is not going to be an open process 11 after the record closes. It's been a rather open process 12 up to this point with a whole lot of process for the 13 public and for all of the intervenors in the adjudication 14 to provide as much information as possible and everything 15 that they thought was relevant. But once the record 16 closes I want it to be clear that you won't be reading 17 anything truthful about people having communications with 18 this Council. They will not be hearing anything more from 19 the Applicant other than post-hearing briefs. They won't 20 be hearing more from the County attorney here, Mr. Hurson, 21 except for his post-hearing brief, and it will all be in 22 writing. We've scheduled those today and that will done 23 by November 6 or 13 or I guess it's November 20 will be 24 the last written communication on legal arguments and then 25 the Council anticipates deliberating within the first week</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 If you were here last night you already know 2 the ground rules. If you've spoken at any of the last two 3 public comment sessions, you can't speak again tonight. 4 You can give up to three minutes of public testimony this 5 evening. We're asking that folks come up and state their 6 name, spell their last name for our court reporter, speak 7 at a reasonable rate so that she can take your testimony, 8 and address your testimony to be heard by the 9 Councilmembers; and as needed if you want to hand anything 10 that's written to Mr. Fiksdal, he'll take that and make it 11 part of the record. Mr. Fiksdal also has cards to tell 12 when you have one minute left and when you should be 13 ending. So he'll be right there, and it's pretty hard to 14 miss him. He may let you run over just a little bit. 15 He'll ask you to round up and make room for the next 16 speaker.</p> <p>17 Last night we had almost 30 people and 18 tonight I know we have at least 20 people signed up, 19 probably more, and we'll be going until approximately 20 8:30, 9:00, if that's the case. If we get many sign-ups, 21 we'll still take a break for our court reporter and for 22 everybody to stretch and be able to pay attention, but we 23 won't go past ten o'clock tonight unless there's been an 24 incredible demand because you can submit things back in 25 writing by next Friday.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 or so of December and issuing its decision on this matter 2 by the close of the year, and we'll come back to 3 Ellensburg here to announce that and have copies of 4 whether it is a recommendation to preempt the local 5 government or not and one way or the other whether we 6 recommend to the Governor this group of wind power to be 7 built or not be built. So all of that will be wrapped up 8 in one document. It will be announced and briefly 9 explained here in Ellensburg as was done with the Wild 10 Horse project if you attended that final meeting.</p> <p>11 From there, there may be some room for some 12 additional legal process, but we expect the product will 13 get to the Governor in January or the latest February of 14 next year and the Governor will have 60 days to act on the 15 recommendation and then the County and the people at 16 Ellensburg will know the final ruling on this particular 17 process.</p> <p>18 I think I'll look for Mr. Hurson to see if 19 he wants to wave for any further explanation for this. 20 We're good. So I think I've answered some of the 21 questions that have come his way about the final process.</p> <p>22 We're ready to get going with the speakers. 23 I'm going to call people a couple at a time as I did in 24 the last couple of meetings, but we're going to start with 25 Louise Genson, Linda Schantz will follow, and then Janet</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 Lee. Dan Morgan is the fourth signed-up speaker.</p> <p>2 So again come up, state your name and</p> <p>3 address, spell your last name for the record, and give us</p> <p>4 your comments and pay attention to Mr. Fiksdal.</p> <p>5 COMMENTS BY LOUISE GENSON</p> <p>6 My name is Louise Genson. It's G-e-n-s-o-n.</p> <p>7 101 Elk Springs Road, Ellensburg, Washington. I'd like to</p> <p>8 thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. I've</p> <p>9 enclosed a copy of my written comments that I submitted to</p> <p>10 the Kittitas County Commissioners and the written comments</p> <p>11 contained in research I did on property values in the Elk</p> <p>12 Springs area.</p> <p>13 My husband and I own 420 acres along Elk</p> <p>14 Springs Road that's in Horizon's proposed project. Much</p> <p>15 has changed in the five years since Horizon first</p> <p>16 contacted us with the idea of being involved in a wind</p> <p>17 farm project. I see a positive change in the awareness of</p> <p>18 the need to use renewable energy sources and preserve the</p> <p>19 nonrenewable resources our nation has been blessed with.</p> <p>20 We see more people driving hybrid cars, using biodiesel,</p> <p>21 and companies promoting conservation of resources as well</p> <p>22 as encouraging any energy efficient alternatives.</p> <p>23 I mention this because I believe our</p> <p>24 property has been blessed with a definite resource: the</p> <p>25 wind. Our property is zoned forest and range 20.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 the county.</p> <p>2 The Kittitas Valley Wind Power site is</p> <p>3 unique. It has one of the best wind resources in our</p> <p>4 county. It has the necessary power grid to receive the</p> <p>5 electricity produced. Wind farms can only be placed where</p> <p>6 these conditions are present. Please give us the</p> <p>7 opportunity to put this resource to work for the benefit</p> <p>8 of so many. Thank you again for the opportunity to speak.</p> <p>9 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, ma'am.</p> <p>10 Linda Schantz.</p> <p>11 COMMENTS BY LINDA SCHANTZ</p> <p>12 Hello, my name is Linda Schantz,</p> <p>13 S-c-h-a-n-t-z. Thank you for allowing public comment this</p> <p>14 evening and please take my comments into consideration</p> <p>15 when deciding upon this project.</p> <p>16 What we know today, we know that wind farms</p> <p>17 are industrial complexes. They're typically 280- to</p> <p>18 400-feet tall each turbine with rotors that are about the</p> <p>19 length of about two-thirds of a city block. They do not</p> <p>20 fit into a rural terrain or character of a rural farming</p> <p>21 and residential area. They stick out like a sore thumb.</p> <p>22 We know that wind towers cause shadow</p> <p>23 flicker. They sometimes throw ice. They interfere with</p> <p>24 radio and T.V. transmissions and that they interfere with</p> <p>25 airport communication and radar, including the offshore,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 According to the zoning code of Kittitas County the</p> <p>2 purpose and intent of this zone is to provide for areas of</p> <p>3 Kittitas County wherein resource management is the highest</p> <p>4 priority and where subdivision and development of lands</p> <p>5 for uses and activities incompatible with resource</p> <p>6 management are discouraged.</p> <p>7 Harnessing the wind is compatible with this</p> <p>8 zoning. I feel the wind farm would be the best use for</p> <p>9 our property. I have found Horizon and their employees to</p> <p>10 be professional, hard working people who are truly</p> <p>11 committed to building a quality project that this County</p> <p>12 can be proud of. It is because of their vision and hard</p> <p>13 work that we currently have one wind farm producing clean</p> <p>14 renewable energy.</p> <p>15 Horizon has reduced the size of the Kittitas</p> <p>16 Valley Wind Power Project, the actual number of turbines,</p> <p>17 and has mitigated every possible concern that opponents</p> <p>18 have raised. I would have liked, to be honest, this</p> <p>19 project to have been approved before now, but I think this</p> <p>20 extra time has allowed just for extra comments and</p> <p>21 concerns to be answered by the Applicant; and I think it's</p> <p>22 really given the community time, especially with the other</p> <p>23 wind farm up and running, to actually see what a working</p> <p>24 wind farm looks like and it kind of dispels some of the</p> <p>25 fears that they might have that this wouldn't be right for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 although that doesn't affect us here. We know this</p> <p>2 because there's whole industries being created to support</p> <p>3 the education and mitigation alternatives to these</p> <p>4 effects.</p> <p>5 We also know that there's no mitigation for</p> <p>6 a 400-foot wind tower being placed 1,000 feet from your</p> <p>7 living room window. They're not natural. They move about</p> <p>8 30 percent of the time and some have blinking lights.</p> <p>9 Common sense tells us that this will not be a pleasant way</p> <p>10 to live if wind farms are put outside our homes. We also</p> <p>11 know that Horizon and its predecessors had ample time to</p> <p>12 relocate this project due to the overwhelming concerns of</p> <p>13 the citizens opposed to this location and they chose not</p> <p>14 to. In the meantime, several other wind developers have</p> <p>15 been snooping around Kittitas Valley and there are some</p> <p>16 other projects out there proposed, including their own.</p> <p>17 It's a fact that the County Commissioners tried to find a</p> <p>18 way to mitigate these effects to the citizens that they're</p> <p>19 here to protect, and they could not find a way to do that</p> <p>20 so they denied the project. They did their job and they</p> <p>21 did it right.</p> <p>22 Horizon Company has demonstrated that they</p> <p>23 will not be good for this valley. They do not have the</p> <p>24 same values as most of us who live here. They have lied</p> <p>25 to us continually and they really don't care that we don't</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 want the project located where it's proposed. They've had 2 over three years to try to make it work by relocating it, 3 and it should be obvious that we are willing to site wind 4 farms in Kittitas Valley. Just look at the Wild Horse 5 Wind Farm Project. It's going to be done at the end of 6 the year and it belongs to them or it did.</p> <p>7 So in closing, I just would like to say the 8 following: The Trojan Horse is at the gates of Troy. 9 This wind power project is Ellensburg's Trojan Horse. If 10 we open our gates to a wind farm that resides in close 11 proximity to residences we have lost Troy, and there will 12 be no turning back. Thank you and I've added a couple of 13 attachments to my document.</p> <p>14 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Schantz. 15 Janet Lee, Dan Morgan, and Elizabeth 16 Robertson.</p> <p>17 COMMENTS BY JANET LEE 18 My name is Janet Lee, L-e-e. My husband and 19 I have property at 5821 Robbins Road in Ellensburg, and we 20 attended the Seattle meeting last week so he could speak. 21 I have written letters to the Daily Record Newspaper, 22 Allen Fiksdal, Christine Gregoire, and EFSEC over the wind 23 farms. We've attended meetings on both sides of the 24 mountains. 25 They want to put these wind turbines in our</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 fuel, but I don't want a biodiesel plant in my back yard 2 anymore than I want wind turbines. I am not saying no to 3 wind farms, but there is a responsible place for them; 4 places like Wild Horse at Whiskey Dick Mountain or Vantage 5 Highway or the new Invenenergy Wind, LLC, which has options 6 to lease or buy land. There is not a community in either 7 of those places.</p> <p>8 These projects are popping up all over and 9 not just in Kittitas County. The state and Governor 10 Gregoire would still get their wind projects where they 11 are wanted not have to force them upon local residents and 12 unwilling landowners. I know this is not part of your 13 plan, but it seems to me that this Council should research 14 all aspects of this project; meaning taking a few hours 15 out of your schedule and drive around on your own or take 16 a tour from one of the landowners in this community. We 17 would gladly show you around. You would then see what we 18 see in this pristine area. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>19 JUDGE TOREM: Dan Morgan. 20 COMMENTS BY DAN MORGAN 21 My name is Dan Morgan, M-o-r-g-a-n, P.O. Box 22 999, Ellensburg. I am here to speak in favor of the 23 proposed project. I'm the third generation owner of a 24 family excavation business in Kittitas Valley. I grew up 25 on Reecer Creek Road which is right in front of where the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 back yard. Kittitas County said no; the property owners 2 said no. Why is our whole public process ignored? It's 3 very apparent that Horizon plays dirty. There is no one 4 in this community who will just get over it if the wind 5 farms come in. It will have a long lasting domino effect 6 on each and every one of us. If we had known that we 7 would be fighting wind turbine projects here, we would 8 have never purchased properties here.</p> <p>9 I invite you to come out to our properties 10 and see what a community it is. We are retired people who 11 have built their dream homes. We have people who have 12 invested their savings into this area to get away from the 13 hustle and bustle of the city and industrial areas. We 14 have adults and kids who thoroughly enjoy riding horses, 15 quads, and snow mobiles here. We have birds and wildlife 16 that we all enjoy. We are a community of people who have 17 been here for quite a while. So what happens to the 18 property owner whose property has devalued 50 percent? We 19 lose thousands of dollars and just absorb the financial 20 loss. Do this for the common good and we should just get 21 over it.</p> <p>22 You want to make the right decision because 23 your decision affects a whole community the rest of their 24 lives. You want to responsibly put the energy facility at 25 the right site. I am very pro alternative for energy and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 project is proposed. My parents still own property there, 2 and I can tell you quite a bit about the wind out there. 3 I've been cussing it for 45 years. It's good to see that 4 somebody is finally going to put a positive spin on it.</p> <p>5 Horizon came to town and proposed the Wild 6 Horse Project. They made a lot of promises about hiring 7 local people and what they were going to do, and I'm happy 8 to say they've fulfilled those promises. My company has 9 been busy out there on the Wild Horse Project all year. 10 We have employed probably close to 20 people out there 11 directly. All those people have families here in the 12 valley. They buy their food, their gas, everything here 13 in town. Indirectly we've employed quite a few other 14 people, products, and supplies. So we've supported many 15 families and businesses in this town, and they have kept 16 their word, been excellent people to work with. So please 17 vote in favor of this project.</p> <p>18 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you. 19 Next will be Elizabeth Robertson, followed by 20 Ben George, and Billy Robins.</p> <p>21 COMMENTS BY ELIZABETH ROBERTSON 22 My name is Elizabeth Robertson. My husband 23 and I--sorry. Robertson, R-o-b-e-r-t-s-o-n. My husband 24 and I live at 4101 Bettas Road in Cle Elum. Our home is 25 1,300 feet from proposed Turbine A1 located on Washington</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 State DNR land. This turbine along Turbines F3, 4, 5, and 2 6 will give us 149 days of shadow flicker, almost half a 3 year. We don't even know the impacts of the low frequency 4 sound because Horizon in typical fashion refuses to allow 5 it to exist. It does exist. See the attachment report. 6 Along these same lines, no one has answered the question 7 about our wells. How will they be affected if they have 8 to use dynamite to prepare the holes for the massive 9 foundations that are needed to support these towers that 10 measure 410 feet to the tip the of blade? 11 I understand that as part of this site visit 12 you came to our home today off Bettas Road. Pretty windy, 13 wasn't it? 14 Attached is a graph measuring the wind at 15 only ten feet elevation over a 16-hour time period. You 16 will notice that there were three hours when there was 17 virtually no wind followed by wind so strong that I would 18 guess if it had been measured at say 100 feet the readings 19 would be so high that any turbines would have had to shut 20 down. At this juncture though it doesn't matter if there 21 is wind in the area. It is not the only place that the 22 wind blows in this state. The Whiskey Dick facility 23 speaks to that. 24 It doesn't even matter about the tax dollars, 25 the revenue generated by the workers on the project, or</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, ma'am. 2 Ben George. 3 COMMENTS BY BEN GEORGE 4 To the Honorable Judge Torem and Council, my 5 name is Ben George, G-e-o-r-g-e. Thank you for giving me 6 the opportunity to testify. I have a cattle ranch at 320 7 East Taneum Road which I've farmed for 60 years. The 8 ranching business becomes more difficult each year as 9 people move in that require more services which their 10 payments in taxes do not cover. As I have land, the 11 burden is put on me to help provide these services. The 12 project and payment of personal property taxes will help 13 to reduce my funding for this obligation. 14 I've investigated other projects like this 15 one proposed and find that they do not have adverse effect 16 on the environment. 17 For 40 years I've lived by the Milwaukee 18 Railroad which is 200 feet from my house. There are 19 several transmission lines of high voltage which snap and 20 crack all during the winter. They apparently did me no 21 harm as shortly I will turn 83 years. 22 Last fall I had the opportunity to accompany 23 Governor Gregoire on a trade mission to Japan and China as 24 an agricultural representative. In talking to the members 25 of the Chinese government and ranch managers they wanted</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 even the electricity made. You are a site evaluation 2 board, and it has already been determined in a fair, 3 democratic process by our elected officials that 4 industrial generation facilities built among homes near 5 wildlife corridors and in scenic byways are not proper 6 sites. We need to end this once and for all. 7 We need to get our lives back. Too long have 8 we been in limbo. Our family is not fourth generation 9 landowners in Kittitas Valley. If this facility goes in, 10 it will impact our entire estate. It is all we have. It 11 is what we have invested everything we have worked for. 12 If this project is permitted, it will be as if we have 13 donated the value of our property to the state. We have 14 20 acres. That's all we have. We cannot move to some 15 other part of the valley and start anew. 16 The County process works. Horizon is in fact 17 building a wind farm at Whiskey Dick because the County 18 process works. How many times and how many ways do we 19 have to say to this company that this is the wrong 20 location? 21 Please respect the County process and the 22 decisions made by our County Commissioners and tell 23 Horizon and all those that come up after them that places 24 where people build homes are the wrong location for these 25 monsters.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 to know if I used biodiesel, if we had a method of 2 producing electricity on our farms. At a fast pace they 3 are exploring their options which would include wind 4 farms. 5 I would whole heartily endorse this project 6 as a win win situation for everyone. 7 If any of you would like, I would be happy to 8 take you on a tour of our ranch. We had the Governor and 9 Lieutenant Governor over, and I think you would find it 10 very interesting and enlightening. Thank you. 11 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you. 12 Billy Robins he will be followed by Roger 13 Clerf and J.P. Roan. 14 COMMENTS BY BILL ROBINS 15 My name is Bill Robins, and I live at 5855 16 Thorp Prairie Road. My last name is spelled R-o-b-i-n-s. 17 One of the questions that I have that I 18 don't understand is who is this power generated for? It 19 doesn't seem it's going to be for our county except it's 20 going to be for somebody else, especially King County, 21 Pierce, or the other side, the west side. I don't 22 understand why the west side comes to our side of the 23 mountains to destroy our beautiful valley for wind for 24 generation of electricity when they could have it on their 25 own side.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 I understand that the wind farm that we have 2 now will produce enough electricity for 70,000 homes which 3 is more than we have in this Valley to start with. And 4 one of the other things I don't understand is that why 5 they don't put this wind farm on the other side of the 6 mountains where there's not only wind near the ocean but 7 there's enough hot air down in Olympia to run it all by 8 itself.</p> <p>9 It's going to destroy our wildlife here. It 10 will affect the people that own property. People say, 11 "Well, it's good for it." Good for it. The last time I 12 heard a politician say it was good for me it cost me more 13 money.</p> <p>14 So to me I think this is a bad thing for our 15 County. I've been here over 20 years, and I've been 16 living in many other places while I was in the military 17 and I've seen wind farms and they destroy a lot of things. 18 And then the poor ecological goes, when it comes to the 19 wildlife and everything else around it.</p> <p>20 So I think it's the wrong thing for you and 21 I hope that you realize that the people on this side if 22 they want more power in this state put it somewhere that 23 it's not going to affect the property values and stuff and 24 the people within this county. Thank you.</p> <p>25 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 capped out, but wind power is just in its infancy. 2 In my view the wind power potential for the 3 State of Washington exceeds the hydro power now produced. 4 Electricity demand will grow. Steam generation using 5 coal, oil, or natural gas will become more and more 6 expensive. The wind is free today, tomorrow, and 7 hereafter. We need to be using it.</p> <p>8 JUDGE TOREM: J.P. Roan and then R.B. 9 Peterson and Sandy Sandall.</p> <p>10 COMMENTS BY J.P. ROAN 11 My name is J.P. Roan. I live at 13991 12 Reecer Creek Road, R-o-a-n. I've been a cattle rancher 13 here in Kittitas County all my life. I'm in favor of this 14 project. I was thinking today I can't think of another 15 thing that if you approve that would benefit everybody. 16 People in the county and the state, the tax revenue. I 17 was happy to hear that you toured the site today because 18 that was more than we could get our county governors to 19 do. A lot of politics I think was involved in the County 20 process, but that's just my opinion, and I'm glad you're 21 here and thank you for your time.</p> <p>22 JUDGE TOREM: R.B. Peterson. 23 COMMENTS BY ROBERT PETERSON 24 I'm Robert Peterson. I live at the 70 25 Chucker Ridge Road, C-h-u-c-k-e-r, Road, in Ellensburg.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 Roger Clerf. 2 COMMENTS BY ROGER CLERF 3 My name is Roger Clerf. I live on Upper Peak 4 Point Road in Cle Elum, C-l-e-r-f. How many of you know 5 the meaning of the word innocuous? The definition is 6 having no adverse effect, harmless, innocent, lacking 7 significant impact, benign.</p> <p>8 I toured the Wild Horse Wind Farm yesterday 9 and saw the turbines standing tall and majestic with their 10 blades turning lazily at 15 revolutions per minute. There 11 was no noise, no vibration, no piles of dead birds. Just 12 innocuous turbines quietly doing their job of generating 13 electricity for the farms and factories, for homes and 14 offices in Puget Sound Energy's service area.</p> <p>15 The Kittitas Valley Wind Project is proposed 16 for a very similar landscape of high dry ridges covered 17 with sparse grass and brush and a few trees. Despite what 18 you have heard from the opponents this is a good location 19 for a wind farm as you have seen on your tour today. This 20 project has some very vocal local opponents, but you 21 people represent the State of Washington. You have to 22 look at the bigger picture. The State of Washington needs 23 electricity that this project would produce. This state's 24 industry and economy were built on the cheap hydro power 25 in the 1930s, the '40s and the '50s. Now hydro power is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 I'm not against the wind power turbines. I'm just against 2 where you want to put them. Now, there are 4,222 square 3 miles in this Kittitas Valley. I'm pretty sure you can 4 find some other place to put it besides in people's back 5 yards.</p> <p>6 And when you put those turbines in the 7 concrete that you put down with them and that's cement, 8 there is chemical that will spray on wells.</p> <p>9 JUDGE TOREM: Could you speak into the 10 microphone just a little better, sir.</p> <p>11 MR. PETERSON: Oh, I'm sorry. That's about 12 all I have to say. Just find a different place to put 13 these. It decrease out buying value on stuff that we've 14 worked for retirement. There's got to be another place to 15 put them besides in people's back yards. Thank you.</p> <p>16 JUDGE TOREM: Sandy Sandall, then Sean 17 Jeffries, and Skip Littlefield.</p> <p>18 COMMENTS BY SANDY SANDALL 19 My name is Sandy Sandall, S-a-n-d-a-l-l. I 20 reside at 8516 Elk Springs Road. I'm not against the wind 21 power or renewable energy. It's the location that we're 22 concerned about. My wife and I live off the grid, using 23 solar and wind, solar panels, and a wind generator. I've 24 listened to the comments that have been made of the people 25 that are in favor of the wind farm and I can understand</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 some of their concerns. We need green energy. 2 The location is what we're looking at. I 3 would like to ask a question of the audience just to put 4 it into perspective. How many of you are willing to 5 really conserve on your energy bill? We do. How many of 6 you have invested 10 to 20 thousand dollars in an 7 alternative energy system? We did. How many of you are 8 willing really to live around those wind towers like they 9 are proposing in our particular area? We're not. 10 So if the State of Washington approves this 11 wind project, then the State Washington or Horizon should 12 be willing to purchase my property for far market value 13 and the relocation. We have invested in this with our 14 retirement and we've got everything invested. It just 15 scares the hell out of me when you talk about putting wind 16 farms up and what could happen to the property values. I 17 support the County Commissioners in their decision to deny 18 the wind project and urge EFSEC to do the same. Thank 19 you. 20 JUDGE TOREM: Sean Jeffries. 21 COMMENTS BY SEAN JEFFRIES 22 Sean Jeffries, J-e-f-f-r-i-e-s, 4421 Red 23 Bridge Road in Cle Elum. Good evening. I'm here as a 24 resident and on behalf of the International Union of 25 Operating Engineers Local 302. I appreciate this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 and try to work in Kittitas County. By bringing these 2 workers from out of state, Horizon undercut the wages and 3 the work of the operating engineers in this community. A 4 large portion of the money earn by these out-of-state 5 workers does not go back into the economy of Kittitas. It 6 goes to other parts of the country. I'm only speaking for 7 my trade, and there is many other trades that are involved 8 in the building of these wind farms that have similar 9 experience. I urge you to look into this. 10 It is our understanding and by the testimony 11 last night that the Economic Development Council supports 12 Horizon's position. The job of the EDC is to bring 13 business to the community. We strongly suggest that the 14 EDC and this Council work closely with Horizon to assure 15 they pay the various prevailing wage for a given 16 occupation and that there's a stipulation of a percentage 17 of local hire and apprenticeship utilization on all 18 projects. Only then will you have true economic 19 development for this County. Thank you. 20 JUDGE TOREM: Skip Littlefield. 21 COMMENT BY SKIP LITTLEFIELD 22 My name is Skip Littlefield, 23 L-i-t-t-l-e-f-i-e-l-d, 607 North Okanogan in Kittitas. I 24 strongly believe local land issues should be decided by a 25 local county government. Our elected government officials</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 opportunity to come before you on this issue of wind farms 2 in Kittitas County. I'm not here to talk for or against 3 the future wind farm projects. I respect local authority 4 and understand that Kittitas County Commissioners are 5 speaking on behalf of its citizenry. 6 I also note that we must continue to provide 7 alternative ways to generate energy for the growing 8 demands of our state and the country. The operating 9 engineers have invested interest in the outcome since we 10 are landowners and taxpayers of this area. We have over 11 1,600 acres of land in Kittitas for our training center. 12 There we provide our state registered apprentices the 13 training they will need to become the next generation of 14 operating engineers. While in training our apprentices 15 stay in local hotels and contribute in many ways to the 16 economy of Kittitas County. 17 Our concern is how these wind farms are being 18 built. Horizon now has a track record in this state and I 19 think that bears looking at. Our experience on the Wild 20 Horse Project found that there has been little local hire 21 for operating heavy equipment. In fact, the workers were 22 brought in from all over the country. They were paid a 23 flat rate much less than the prevailed wage with no 24 benefits. 25 We have approximately 160 members that live</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 have made their decision to deny this project because of 2 the negative impacts to the local residences. Please 3 respect this decision and recommend denial of this project 4 to our Governor. Thank you. 5 JUDGE TOREM: Next is Wayne Bell, Kurt 6 Linder, and Bernice Best. 7 COMMENTS BY WAYNE BELL 8 Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council, my 9 name is Wayne Bell. I reside at 3911 Bettas Road, Cle 10 Elum, Washington. My wife is here with me tonight and 11 before I begin my testimony I would like to say that I 12 totally concur, my wife and I, with the comments that Mike 13 Robertson made in Seattle, our neighbor, and his wife, Liz 14 Robertson. I'm totally support everything he said so I'm 15 not going keep going over that. I will pick up where they 16 left off. 17 Today you saw our property on your tour as 18 you crested Hayward Road and headed down into Horse 19 Canyon. We had the barn-like looking house with five 20 horses out in front, and if those turbines go up where 21 they're talking about, we're going to stop rescuing horses 22 for Kittitas. That's kind of what we do and that's going 23 to go away for this county because those horses can't 24 stand that shadow flicker and noise, shock, and vibration 25 that would be created by those four or five turbines that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 are going to be surrounding our property.</p> <p>2 So having said that, that's the subjective</p> <p>3 view, and I'm going to try to get away from that. I'm</p> <p>4 opposed to this project for two reasons. Simply put, the</p> <p>5 site is in the wrong place, and I would ask that you</p> <p>6 support the will of the majority of the people of this</p> <p>7 county, the decision of the Planning Commission, and the</p> <p>8 elected Board of Commissioners that represent the people</p> <p>9 of this county and do not usurp their authority.</p> <p>10 Secondly, again this is subjective, is that I</p> <p>11 would like to ask that you reject this request for</p> <p>12 preemption on the grounds it would set a dangerous</p> <p>13 precedent for deliberations on any future projects on any</p> <p>14 industrial project application. A decision to preempt the</p> <p>15 will of the majority of the people, the County's duly</p> <p>16 appointed Planning Commission, and the elected Board of</p> <p>17 Commissioners would open pandora's box for other such</p> <p>18 corporations to diminish the due diligence of the normal</p> <p>19 process and to leverage the preemption option literally to</p> <p>20 run the table at the expense of those of us that don't</p> <p>21 have the time to stay and wait.</p> <p>22 I have sat through a number of hearings and</p> <p>23 listened to and read a lot of the testimony that</p> <p>24 proponents of this project have presented. There's one</p> <p>25 common thread that runs through all of this. In my</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 Sampson Ellensburg, Washington. I also have a ranch at</p> <p>2 8540 Smithson Road. I was fortunate to have a wind</p> <p>3 turbine. I was fortunate to own a wind turbine of my own</p> <p>4 from a factory. I was at a seminar and on the way back</p> <p>5 when I completed the seminar, I purchased this wind</p> <p>6 turbine and I erected it here at my place here at Smithson</p> <p>7 and Reecer Creek Road across from the old Reecer Creek</p> <p>8 Schoolhouse; and it had a 22-foot wing span, and it was 60</p> <p>9 feet high, and it produced the power that went directly</p> <p>10 into the PUD line to my meter, and I didn't use the power.</p> <p>11 My meter would run backwards. It would reduce my bill</p> <p>12 from the PUD and I operated it for about eight years. And</p> <p>13 my wife she was ill so I had to leave the ranch and move</p> <p>14 closer to town so I sold the wind farm--it's a wind</p> <p>15 machine. I had not a farm. Sorry. But that's my story.</p> <p>16 Thank you.</p> <p>17 JUDGE TOREM: Bernice Best.</p> <p>18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you back</p> <p>19 here.</p> <p>20 JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Best, can you speak into</p> <p>21 the microphone.</p> <p>22 COMMENTS BY BERNICE BEST</p> <p>23 I will try that. My name is Bernice Best.</p> <p>24 The last name is spelled B-as in boy-e-s-t. I live at 210</p> <p>25 Tomahawk Lane, Ellensburg, Washington 98926. That is</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 opinion it's arrogance. They were arrogant in their</p> <p>2 efforts to press their fill on the majority of the people</p> <p>3 in this county explaining that they know more about where</p> <p>4 we live and know more about us and our opinions.</p> <p>5 They were arrogant in their testimony before</p> <p>6 the Planning Commission when they stood here and lectured</p> <p>7 those members about how they should conduct their job and</p> <p>8 how they should interpret the law. They were also</p> <p>9 arrogant when they walked away from the County</p> <p>10 Commissioners toward the end of that process, and today</p> <p>11 they are arrogant asking you to usurp the will of the</p> <p>12 majority of people in this county, the decision of the</p> <p>13 appointed members of the Planning Commission and the</p> <p>14 decision of the elected Board of Commissioners.</p> <p>15 In closing, I ask that you reject this</p> <p>16 project because it is in the wrong place. And in that</p> <p>17 rejection, you will send a message to other such</p> <p>18 corporations that you better do your homework and be a</p> <p>19 little respectful to the process before you try to win the</p> <p>20 hearts and the minds of the people of Kittitas County and</p> <p>21 the members of this Council. Thank you.</p> <p>22 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.</p> <p>23 Kurt Linder.</p> <p>24 COMMENTS BY KURT LINDER</p> <p>25 My name is Kurt Linder, and I live 107 North.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 located on the northeast boundary of the proposed project</p> <p>2 so I'm very close within site of the area. And I want to</p> <p>3 thank you for giving me an opportunity to again speak out</p> <p>4 in support of this project.</p> <p>5 The current growth in Kittitas County and the</p> <p>6 State of Washington supports the need for this project as</p> <p>7 well as additional wind and other alternative energy</p> <p>8 projects. We need to be able to meet the increasing</p> <p>9 demand for more electricity in the very near future. In</p> <p>10 order to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and other</p> <p>11 nonrenewable fossil fuels, we need to turn to wind and</p> <p>12 other renewable energy resources as quickly as possible.</p> <p>13 Cleaner air will also be the result of alternative energy</p> <p>14 sources. With the current oil prices being so high and</p> <p>15 coal being nonrenewable, as well as polluting, wind is the</p> <p>16 least expensive source of power. Even though we have an</p> <p>17 abundance of wind resources in Kittitas County this site</p> <p>18 is right, having both willing landowners, as well as easy</p> <p>19 access to existing transmission lines thereby helping to</p> <p>20 keep the costs to consumers down.</p> <p>21 I have often heard the remarks I would</p> <p>22 support wind farms in Kittitas County if the power were</p> <p>23 only used here. I wonder if those persons realize that</p> <p>24 most of the electricity now being consumed in our county</p> <p>25 is being produced elsewhere and was purchased on long-term</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 leases from other producers. Some of the leases will soon 2 expires. Since the power is not in those local areas the 3 leases are not expected to be renewed. 4 To build the Grand Coulee Dam ten communities 5 were demolished and/or moved affecting hundreds of people. 6 In comparison to my way of thinking, having a wind farm in 7 my view scape or close by is a very small sacrifice to pay 8 to ensure adequate energy for future needs. In some 9 countries the wind turbines are located by the people's 10 back yards, and they are in town. 11 This project has my support and that of my 12 family. We strongly urge you to approve this application. 13 Thank you. 14 JUDGE TOREM: Next three speakers are Fred 15 Brune, Eric Prater, and Gary Giesick. 16 COMMENTS BY FRED BRUNE 17 My name is Fred Brune. I live at 2310 18 Umptanum Road, Ellensburg. My last name is spelled 19 B-r-u-n-e. I'm a life-long valley resident. My great 20 grandparents homesteaded here in 1869. I have a good 21 heritage and a good history here in the valley. Our rural 22 life is disappearing. Our farmers are subdividing and 23 developing and building houses. They've discovered that 24 there's more money in houses than there is tending the 25 hay.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 wouldn't have property taxes. The hospitals, the fire, 2 law enforcement would all be funded. Wouldn't that be 3 wonderful to not have property taxes? I think it's in a 4 perfect location. I look forward to be it being built. 5 Thank you very much. 6 JUDGE TOREM: Eric Prater. 7 COMMENTS OF ERIC PRATER 8 My name is Eric Prater. I live at 3740 Cove 9 Road, P-r-a-t-e-r. I'm a fourth generation resident of a 10 farming family in the valley. I've also seen a lot of 11 change. I drive for the Ellensburg School District from 12 Horse Canyon to Badger Pockets, from there to Manastash 13 Ridge, and I've seen a lot of growth in that area. 14 One of my concerns about this I guess issue 15 it's the agricultural lands staying somewhat overspaced, 16 and in our County Planning Commission and the 17 recommendation to the Commissioners I think that was a 18 flawed decision on their part. I do not support their 19 decision and I spoke against it, as I would rather see a 20 dark spot on the hillside up there rather than see house 21 lights and see roads going up there. 22 The other concerns with this issue is they 23 didn't address the water issue. This 6,000 acres will 24 only add one more well. I'm sure there will be more if 25 there's more houses that come in around it. We're looking</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 We have lots of people moving in here, but 2 they're not bringing much new industry with them, and we 3 need a good tax base here. We need good jobs with 4 benefits. I look out at the Wild Horse Project and see 5 those wind turbines turning and finally we have an 6 industry here that provides some jobs, good benefits. 7 Something is happening in Kittitas Valley. We've chased 8 away Busby Manufacturing in the early '60s and they moved 9 to Moses Lake. They employ 50 plus people year-round. We 10 turned down a quarter-horse race track because we can't 11 have gambling in Kittitas County. You know, what about 12 the wealth it would have brought? DNR is going to lease 13 land that these turbines are on or are going to be on, and 14 that supports the public schools and the universities. 15 The Kittitas School District is already profiting from the 16 Wild Horse turbines. It's time we had them here. 17 If the landowners on the proposed project are 18 really concerned about their view, they wouldn't have 19 built houses near power lines. They can already see the 20 power lines. I've been told that noise can be an issue 21 with the turbines, but I've also been told that if the 22 wind is blowing above 15 miles an hour, you can't hear 23 them turning. 24 I understand that if the ridge all the way 25 around the valley were lined with wind turbines we</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 at in some cases 20-acre lots and some areas we're looking 2 at 3-acre lots in forest and range conversion zones. In 3 fact, last week the Planning Commission just turned down 4 6,000 acres in the upper county. The developer tried or 5 landowner tried to go from forest and range to out of that 6 designation. 7 Anyway that's my point basically is I would 8 rather see open spaces with wind towers because if I could 9 have a wind tower by my house, I would because maybe there 10 wouldn't so many houses around me. I wish I could 11 influence, but thank you for the opportunity to speak and 12 please, please, give us the wind farm. 13 I also drive school bus for the Ellensburg 14 School District, and this wind farm won't be in our 15 district. It will be in the Cle Elum District, but they 16 can use the money if we can't. Our bond just failed in 17 our district. Maybe someday we'll have another industrial 18 thing to give us the money. Anyway thank you for that. 19 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Prater. 20 Gary Giesick will be followed by James 21 Markaret and Jaelle Downs. 22 Gary Giesick going once, going twice. All 23 right. We'll move onto James Markaret, or I'm not going 24 to find out, on Pfenning Road I think it is. 25 Next is Jaelle Downs.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 COMMENTS BY JAELE DOWNES 2 I'm Jaelle Downs, D-o-w-n-s. I live at 913 3 North Pfenning Road. I was born in Ellensburg, Washington 4 14 years ago, and I like the addition of the wind farm to 5 Kittitas Valley and I hope to see more. They're cleaner 6 and lead petroleum and coal harm the environment. I thank 7 you for giving me this opportunity to speak. 8 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you. Is James Markaret 9 available now? He'll be followed by Jill Kuhn and Holly 10 Pinkart. 11 COMMENTS BY JAMES MARKARET 12 My name is James Markaret. I live at 913 13 Pfenning Road. Last name is spelled M-a-r-k-a-r-e-t. On 14 a professional level what I have written here is basically 15 I'm not opposed to them. I look at them every morning 16 from my house. I come from New York City. I looked at 17 things like apartment buildings everyday and they're ugly. 18 I love Ellensburg. One of the things that brought me here 19 was the beauty and the scenery. You could look everyday 20 at Mount Stuart and it looks different. 21 You could look everyday where the turbines 22 are that I see from my house and the scenery looks 23 different. It does not look ugly. As far as people that 24 will live where they are, I can understand some of their 25 grief. But you know what? We talk about how many</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 I, again, maybe I wasn't in Vietnam, but, again, I don't 2 want to see our kids sent somewhere for what: for oil? We 3 all know that's why we're there fighting. Again, thank 4 you for your time. 5 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you. Let's keep the 6 clapping down, please. 7 Jill Kuhn and Holly Pinkart. 8 COMMENTS BY JILL KUHN 9 Good evening, I'm Jill Kuhn, K-u-h-n, 607 10 North Okanogan, Kittitas, Washington 98934. Back to the 11 issue. This contradictory project has boiled down to 12 basically one factor right now. Probably the biggest 13 factor of all, county versus state rights and land use 14 decisions. Kittitas County was capable of reviewing the 15 other two wind farm projects. In fact, Horizon praised 16 the County Commissioners when they approved the Wild Horse 17 Project, but when they denied their Kittitas Valley Wind 18 Farm they went straight to the state. I consider this 19 contemptuous. 20 Land use rights should remain county 21 decisions, as the residents of this county will have to 22 live, play, and work around the project. Also all the 23 meetings should have been held in this county. A meeting 24 wasn't held in Kittitas County for the controversial 25 placing of cell phone towers in King County. Keep the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 generations? Look where they are. We came all of us from 2 somewhere and pushed the Native Americans out. Okay? If 3 you don't like where you are, move on. 4 Energy we need it. We're over here and 5 luckily my daughter is only 14, but in four years from now 6 who's to say that we're not somewhere fighting for oil, 7 sending our kids to fight for that. Do we want that? I 8 have friends that were in Vietnam for what? It was 9 worthless. We have veterans that can tell you the same 10 thing. 11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Speak for yourself. You 12 haven't been there. If you haven't been there, don't talk 13 about it. 14 JUDGE TOREM: Sir, don't disturb the 15 speaker. Let him finish. 16 Go ahead, Mr. Markaret. Finish your 17 comments. 18 Folks that want to disturb I'm going to ask 19 them to leave. If we're going to disrupt each other, 20 we're not going to be able to finish the hearing. So 21 please give some due respect to people's opinion even if 22 you don't like it. 23 MR. MARKARET: Going back to what I was 24 saying about Vietnam, I had friends that were there, and 25 their families were upset why they were sent there. And</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 decision with the County. The state should recommend a 2 denial of this project. And, again, I would like to 3 praise to all the county residents who have persevered 4 through this process for the love of their community and 5 this environment. Thank you. 6 JUDGE TOREM: Holly Pinkart, followed by 7 Andrew Wright, and Jesse Smith. 8 COMMENTS BY HOLLY PINKART 9 My name is Holly Pinkart. I reside at 5900 10 Robbins Road in Ellensburg. I represent both myself and 11 my husband West tonight. I am a resident of Ellensburg. 12 I'm also a professor of microbiology at Central Washington 13 University, a tenured professor there. 14 JUDGE TOREM: Can you speak up just a little 15 MS. PINKART: Oh, sorry. Sorry about that. 16 Both as a citizen and biologist I have to say that I 17 really vehemently oppose this particular wind farm. I've 18 opposed from day one and I've spoken on several occasions 19 about some of the big problems they had with their 20 environmental impact statement. There are many things 21 that are shortcomings there, not only with the 22 environmental impact statement but as well as some other 23 folks have talked about poor mitigation process for people 24 who would be affected by these wind turbines and those 25 haven't changed one bit from day one until now.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 Simply giving somebody a blind and a tree or 2 two to block something that's 400 feet tall is not really 3 adequate mitigation. On a personal note this summer when 4 my father was visiting we went to lunch at KV Winery 5 across the Columbia River in George and my father looked 6 out and said, "Oh, look, at those wind turbines. I didn't 7 know Vantage had a farm too." I said, "No, those are the 8 ones from Ellensburg 40 miles away." They were very, very 9 visible on the horizon. And to actually have these things 10 that's only 1,000 feet from someone's home is asking a 11 little bit much, especially if they aren't being 12 compensated in any way for loss of their property value. 13 As a biologist I've been around several 14 situations where government intervention has sort of 15 forced individuals to comply and to either lose land value 16 or lose their land, but in many cases, especially in 17 wetland transformation, they were at least compensated for 18 their loss which is not happening here. 19 There are several problems with this 20 project. I urge you to deny it as the citizens have, as 21 the Planning Commission has, as the County Commissioners 22 have. We have a lot of layers of no. If folks come in 23 and override us and force us to accept this in having 24 brute-force, unwanted decisions on a populous, it gets 25 kind of ugly and I would urge you not to do that. Thank</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 roll in and this valley literally magnifies the rumble of 2 thunder. If you have a whole bunch of these wind 3 turbines, it's just going to magnify that sound a lot, lot 4 more. 5 These turbines will also have an affect on 6 many people. My sister she has seizures. The shadow 7 flicker they can cause seizures, and I would not want to 8 have my sister have to worry about getting another one so. 9 The animals. The turbines have a big affect 10 on the animals. I hunt, and, you know, Ellensburg is the 11 only place I hunt and with all these turbines here I'm 12 pretty sure them deer don't want to be here. And the only 13 thing that I think would benefit is would be the mice 14 because all the hunters wouldn't be around to control the 15 mice, and we have a big, big mouse problem where we live 16 right now. And I could also hunt those if I run out of 17 everything else to hunt. 18 And I also plan on investing in some land 19 here and I heard that the land value could drop 50 20 percent. That really isn't going to help me out or many 21 other people that really want to buy land here. And thank 22 you who letting me try to speak. 23 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Wright. We 24 appreciate it. 25 Jesse Smith, then Debbie Lee.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 you for your time. 2 JUDGE TOREM: Andrew Wright. He will be 3 followed by Jesse Smith and Debbie Lee, and, Bob, I can't 4 quite read your last name, Cove perhaps. 5 COMMENTS BY ANDREW WRIGHT 6 My name is Andrew Wright, W-r-i-g-h-t. I 7 live on 5821 Robbins Road in Ellensburg, Washington. I 8 don't know all the technical facts, but I do know some of 9 them, and none of them sound like anything that I would 10 appreciate. 11 Over here I ride snow mobiles and quads and 12 dirt bikes and I like to go up to the mountains on the 13 north side of Ellensburg and I just like to just sit there 14 and, you know, look at the scenery, you know. And these 15 wind turbines they're going to destroy that good, 16 beautiful view. 17 And the sounds of them, you know, they are 18 very, very loud. I sat at a meeting a year ago and one 19 guy said that a Harley Davidson they put out, they put out 20 96 sound decibels and these wind turbines decibels they 21 put out over 100 and they want to put 180 of them in our 22 Valley. You basically have a whole bunch of Harley 23 Davidsons driving around all day possibly. 24 And, you know, I enjoy, you know, the 25 weather here. It gets kind of weird thunder storms. They</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 COMMENTS BY JESSE SMITH 2 My name is Jesse Smith, S-m-i-t-h. I live 3 at 903 North Water here in Ellensburg. I've been to the 4 Hopkins Ridge Project, and I have experienced the noise 5 that everyone is talking about. The wind was louder than 6 the noise. I have also been out to the Genson property, 7 and the noise from the wind blowing over the power lines 8 is much greater than what I experienced at the Hopkins 9 Ridge Project. Also if you look around this room, most of 10 the people here unfortunately are middle age or older. I 11 am a young man which means I have 60 years, 60 years to go 12 at least. 13 If you guys haven't realized it, we do need 14 a renewable energy resource. Kittitas County has that. 15 If you guys don't use that now, what am I going to do in 16 60 years? You guys are worried about your land. I 17 totally understand that, but that's not going to matter in 18 the long run when--you have to look out for the people 19 that are coming after you, and I don't see Kittitas County 20 doing that right now. Thank you. 21 JUDGE TOREM: Debbie Lee. 22 COMMENTS BY DEBBIE LEE 23 My name is Debbie Lee. I live at 1101 North 24 Columbia, Ellensburg, L-e-e. I was born and raised in the 25 valley, and I wanted just to state one thing; that I did</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 tour the wind farm and you can't hear the turbines. All</p> <p>2 you can hear is the wind and I'm for the wind farm.</p> <p>3 JUDGE TOREM: Bob on Schribbly Ridge Road.</p> <p>4 Anybody with really good handwriting analysis? Bob Covee</p> <p>5 or Cove? Okay. It doesn't appear that he's here anyway.</p> <p>6 Paul Bennett. He's be followed by Mark</p> <p>7 Holloway and Desmond Knudson.</p> <p>8 COMMENTS BY PAUL BENNETT</p> <p>9 Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My</p> <p>10 name is Paul Bennett, B-e-n-n-e-t-t, and I reside at 2013</p> <p>11 Quartz Mountain Drive, Ellensburg. I've been</p> <p>12 participating and listening to many of the wind farm</p> <p>13 hearings and other meetings since the first application</p> <p>14 was submitted--</p> <p>15 JUDGE TOREM: Could you slow down just a</p> <p>16 little bit.</p> <p>17 MR. BENNETT: --many years ago. I've been a</p> <p>18 participant. There have been so many valid issues and</p> <p>19 depending on what your position is on the issues</p> <p>20 everybody's opinion is correct. I think three are basic</p> <p>21 issues I would like to briefly address tonight.</p> <p>22 One, what is the correct setback; two,</p> <p>23 property rights: your, mine and others; and three, is</p> <p>24 EFSEC relevant?</p> <p>25 What is a correct setback? Well, that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 minimum setback that applicants, leased owners, and</p> <p>2 adjoining landowners and interested parties can discuss in</p> <p>3 a public setting that is then passed into code. Until</p> <p>4 that time the numbers are arbitrary and capricious. So is</p> <p>5 2,500 the right setback? Is 1,320 feet the right setback?</p> <p>6 You need to rule based upon the setbacks of other towers</p> <p>7 and don't just randomly pick.</p> <p>8 Two, properties rights. Boy, do I dislike</p> <p>9 looking at the cell tower outside my home with that big</p> <p>10 red light, and I really dislike the new addition on the</p> <p>11 fire station and how I have to listen to the noisy siren</p> <p>12 at all hours of the night every time they go out and save</p> <p>13 someone's life or protect someone's property. Do you know</p> <p>14 my neighborhood has changed with the current and future</p> <p>15 addition of 64 new homes down the street? And I really</p> <p>16 won't even comment on the new 180 homes coming down on my</p> <p>17 neighborhood. How about what those properties owners have</p> <p>18 done? How could they have done that?</p> <p>19 Because each of those property owners have</p> <p>20 something that I haven't got. No, it's not a heart or a</p> <p>21 brain or courage, but they have what I don't have is a</p> <p>22 property right to do exactly what they're doing in</p> <p>23 accordance with the county code. If I didn't like any of</p> <p>24 these things, I had the options to attempt to buy property</p> <p>25 to keep the change from occurring.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 answer won't be answered by you because everyone will have</p> <p>2 a different opinion ranging from 200 feet to 200 miles.</p> <p>3 But you do have to decide on the setback and I think you</p> <p>4 need to look at what type of setbacks have been approved</p> <p>5 in the past for all types of powers and what restrictions</p> <p>6 the County placed on the proximity to new and existing</p> <p>7 homes.</p> <p>8 The questions you need to ask the County</p> <p>9 before you decide what the setbacks are: What's the</p> <p>10 setback from a neighbor's home from a cell tower? What's</p> <p>11 the setback from a ham radio tower? What's the setback</p> <p>12 from a radio tower? And what's the setback from an</p> <p>13 existing or new high voltage power tower? Okay. Has the</p> <p>14 County restricted the building of homes near new or</p> <p>15 existing high voltage lines? Has the County recently</p> <p>16 allowed subdivision of land near these high voltage towers</p> <p>17 and was there restrictive language on the setback from</p> <p>18 homes to towers? Have power providers voluntarily</p> <p>19 provided setbacks to high voltage towers? Hint: I think</p> <p>20 it is 700 feet. Did the County comment on the setbacks</p> <p>21 during the EIS process for the new high voltage line</p> <p>22 constructed late last year or the year prior?</p> <p>23 If you're going to determine setbacks, you</p> <p>24 need to look at the answers to these questions as a guide.</p> <p>25 I think the County should come up with standardized</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 JUDGE TOREM: Just wrap it up.</p> <p>2 MR. BENNETT: Okay. Then we'll come down to</p> <p>3 is EFSEC relevant? You also need to look at whether this</p> <p>4 committee is even relevant. I believe, and I could be</p> <p>5 wrong, that you were formed to rule in this very</p> <p>6 situation, whether the local jurisdiction either refused</p> <p>7 to decide or rule against an applicant. Your website</p> <p>8 states that you've never had a situation before you where</p> <p>9 the local jurisdiction you have never ruled against a</p> <p>10 local jurisdiction. Well, if all you can do is rubber</p> <p>11 stamp the local jurisdiction, then save a lot of money and</p> <p>12 not have this committee. But if you're truly trying to</p> <p>13 determine the appropriate siting for an energy facility,</p> <p>14 then you're obliged to ensure this application complies</p> <p>15 with all rules, codes, laws, and past practices. And, if</p> <p>16 not, overridden by a new rule then this committee is</p> <p>17 relevant.</p> <p>18 If the logic to approve or disapprove is</p> <p>19 legal, thoughtful, and logical, then you have done your</p> <p>20 job. If you disapprove because you've never overridden a</p> <p>21 local jurisdiction, then you have done a grave injustice.</p> <p>22 Now it's time to stand up and be counted,</p> <p>23 and I make this statement knowing that it will have an</p> <p>24 impact on my family and my children. I support the wind</p> <p>25 energy project on this sit before you and I encourage you</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 to support the project as well. Thank you.</p> <p>2 JUDGE TOREM: Mark Holloway, then Desmond</p> <p>3 Knudson, Tom Maskal. The last two speakers after that are</p> <p>4 Ed Garrett and Julie Emery.</p> <p>5 COMMENTS OF MARK HOLLOWAY</p> <p>6 My name is Mark Holloway. I live at 1581</p> <p>7 Thomas Road in Ellensburg, Washington. I have been a</p> <p>8 resident for Ellensburg for 30 years. I've been to the</p> <p>9 Dayton Wind Farm. On the point of noise I stood</p> <p>10 underneath it, had a conversation with people directly</p> <p>11 below it, and you can hear a whish sound; whish, whish,</p> <p>12 like that. About 300 feet away you can hear a sound just</p> <p>13 slightly, but you can't really tell what direction it's</p> <p>14 coming from. 750 feet away you can't distinguish any</p> <p>15 sound from the wind towers. You can't distinguish any</p> <p>16 sounds from the wind and the wind towers. You can't even</p> <p>17 tell where the sound is coming from. You just hear the</p> <p>18 wind. When it's not blowing, there is no sound.</p> <p>19 On the point of the revenue that would be</p> <p>20 generated by the wind towers, the local government is</p> <p>21 going to get some money. We just had a school bond that</p> <p>22 didn't pass. We have a junior high school that I have two</p> <p>23 kids in. That is, you know, it was there when I went to</p> <p>24 junior high and it was there way before me. It's in bad</p> <p>25 shape. It's an old building. It would be great for our</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 for respecting your appointed jobs and duties. I wanted</p> <p>2 to first publicly apologize for my outburst with</p> <p>3 Mr. Hurson and Mr. Garrett in front of all you today on</p> <p>4 our three hour tour.</p> <p>5 This preemption is not that the County</p> <p>6 should or not allow this project. The County has already</p> <p>7 given its blessing to a 2,000-foot setback from property</p> <p>8 lines and 2,500 from existing residence structures to</p> <p>9 nonparticipating landowners unless a flow with the title</p> <p>10 variance is signed and that a safety setback distance of</p> <p>11 less than 541 feet would never be allowed.</p> <p>12 Discussions back and fourth between and</p> <p>13 during the public hearings did happen. There just was no</p> <p>14 direction that either side could or would admit to with</p> <p>15 the County playing a cat and mouse game which I also</p> <p>16 witnessed during the enXco hearings. The fact is</p> <p>17 Horizon's requested setback was given in response to the</p> <p>18 line of comments by both staff and the Commissioners. The</p> <p>19 County has been presented with and evidence to support a</p> <p>20 quarter mile setback. I was in a conference room as a</p> <p>21 local (and that does not mean crazy) resident and I</p> <p>22 suggested and agreed a quarter mile was the proper</p> <p>23 distance, not 1,000 feet.</p> <p>24 I have personally seen the Hopkins Ridge</p> <p>25 Wind Power facility and now I have seen and been to the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 local economy to have a steady 25-year stream of income</p> <p>2 that could be used to upgrade some of the things in our</p> <p>3 county, including things for the hospital.</p> <p>4 I live approximately a mile south of the</p> <p>5 power lines. I have no problems with the power lines that</p> <p>6 are out behind our house. They haven't affected our land</p> <p>7 value. In fact, our land value has gone up. So this is</p> <p>8 property that belongs to individuals, and if they decide</p> <p>9 to do that, then that's a great thing.</p> <p>10 My last comment is on the biological</p> <p>11 standpoint. If you're going to take 6,000 acres, it's</p> <p>12 basically 6,000 acres in one lot as habitat versus 6,000</p> <p>13 acres turned into 300 houses turned into which each has</p> <p>14 two cats, a dog, two SUVs, 300 wells. How is that going</p> <p>15 to affect the habitat? I think that's going to have a</p> <p>16 greater affect on the habitat of that area for the next 25</p> <p>17 years than one lot of 6,000 acres cared for and managed.</p> <p>18 Thanks.</p> <p>19 JUDGE TOREM: Desmond Knudson. Mr. Knudson,</p> <p>20 you can take the microphone out of its holder for your</p> <p>21 purposes. That would be fine.</p> <p>22 COMMENTS BY DESMOND KNUDSON</p> <p>23 Good evening. Desmond Knudson, 1661 Vantage</p> <p>24 Highway, Ellensburg, Washington 98926. Knudson is</p> <p>25 K-n-u-d-s-o-n. Good evening, Council, and thank you all</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 Wild Horse Wind Power facility while both were in</p> <p>2 operation.</p> <p>3 These pictures that are in front of you</p> <p>4 which I'll one at a time show you in a minute are</p> <p>5 basically what you've seen today. I took these during</p> <p>6 last winter and this is the site that we're looking at.</p> <p>7 You heard earlier that 800 feet you could</p> <p>8 not discern the wind--750 feet you could discern the wind</p> <p>9 from the turbine. I couldn't hear a different noise at</p> <p>10 250 and 500, but at 750 was also my cutoff point. The</p> <p>11 future KV sites, and I suggest you all add a quick tour of</p> <p>12 the Wild Horse site while it is up and running before you</p> <p>13 go you home and then you will know what a running wind</p> <p>14 farm in Kittitas County looks and sounds like. You can</p> <p>15 see it, but you can't hear it from here.</p> <p>16 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Knudson, it's pretty</p> <p>17 apparent you're going to run out of time with those.</p> <p>18 Mr. Fiksdal, that would be one minute.</p> <p>19 MR. FIKSDAL: Yes</p> <p>20 JUDGE TOREM: If you want to page through</p> <p>21 the photographs for the rest of your time and turn in your</p> <p>22 written statement and we'll read it.</p> <p>23 MR. KNUDSON: Yes, thank you.</p> <p>24 JUDGE TOREM: I think for the benefits of</p> <p>25 those if you would put the photos on a chair and folks who</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 just want to come by and see them at the end that might be 2 best.</p> <p>3 MR. KNUDSON: Okay. Good.</p> <p>4 JUDGE TOREM: Go ahead.</p> <p>5 MR. KNUDSON: This is where we were today on 6 Elk Springs Road is up above these and this is from 97 7 looking up towards the towers. This is Elk Springs Road 8 during the wintertime. It was nice and graded and plowed 9 today. In fact, a local contractor did that. There's a 10 shot of towers standing straight underneath which you 11 drove under three times going up Cricklewood Lane. There 12 is a blade at 750 feet away where the noise is diminished. 13 There is the man who testified in front of me with the 14 lead PR lady at Puget Sound Energy at Hopkins Ridge.</p> <p>15 JUDGE TOREM: How many total pictures do you 16 have, Mr. Knudson?</p> <p>17 MR. KNUDSON: Two more. There's a quarter 18 mile away. There is just looking up towards the mountain 19 off Cricklewood Lane and there is what we want it to look 20 like when it's done. Thank you very much.</p> <p>21 JUDGE TOREM: If you put those on chairs out 22 front and if folks whether pro or con want to see them, 23 we'll just leave them. They're going to be going into the 24 record as well. You're leaving them for us, Mr. Knudson?</p> <p>25 MR. KNUDSON: Yes, I am.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 It was mentioned earlier. I think it's arrogant for 2 Horizon to come in here and try and ram this thing down 3 our throat. The County has had numerous hearings of the 4 Planning Commission and the County Commissioners. 5 Overwhelmingly the speakers rejected it and it the County 6 Commissioners rejected it.</p> <p>7 Your panel to hold a hearing in Seattle I 8 think is arrogant. When Seattle has an environmental 9 issue they don't come to Kittitas to hold a hearing. I 10 used to live in the Seattle area. Certainly they need 11 more power. They do not need to destroy our valley and 12 the views of our valley. You're going to make a 13 recommendation to the Governor. Christine would like to 14 be a Governor of both sides of this state. If she 15 overrides you or follows your recommendation and rams this 16 down Kittitas' throat, she sure as hell is not going to be 17 my Governor as a resident of Kittitas.</p> <p>18 I urge you to reject this. I urge you to 19 listen to the County. I urge you to listen to the 20 economic interests like Knudson who wants to sell lumber 21 to build concrete forms and understand where the people 22 who want this project are coming from; the people who want 23 to live in this valley, see this beautiful valley stay the 24 way it is. We already have this Whiskey Dick. We do not 25 need this project. We do not need more of Horizon and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 JUDGE TOREM: Tom Maskal, Ed Garrett, and 2 Julie Emery.</p> <p>3 COMMENTS BY TOM MASKAL</p> <p>4 My name is Tom Maskal. I live at 420 Kern 5 Road, Ellensburg, 98926, spelling M-a-s-k-a-l. I think 6 most of us in this room can agree that we need renewable 7 energy sources, we need solar, we need wind. This is 8 probably a good project. I consider myself an 9 environmentalist. I'm going to invest in my own solar and 10 my own small wind turbine. It's certainly not going to be 11 410 feet high.</p> <p>12 This is probably a good project. May or may 13 not be economically viable. It is just in the wrong 14 place. The Whiskey Dick Wild Horse Project is a good 15 project. It's in the right place. Nobody lives out 16 there. You can see it. Nobody lives there to hear it. 17 Nobody has to worry about the shadow flicker and all the 18 other problems.</p> <p>19 Where this is, is this is up on 97 and 970 20 and off of 10 and you can see it. Everybody in this 21 beautiful valley will be able to see it because when they 22 look out towards Mount Stuart they're going to see it and 23 it's going to be a lot on the landscape. It's going to be 24 a lot on their view.</p> <p>25 I want to talk a little bit about arrogance.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 Goldman Sachs. Thank you.</p> <p>2 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.</p> <p>3 Ed Garrett.</p> <p>4 COMMENTS BY ED GARRETT</p> <p>5 For the record, my name is Ed Garrett, 6 G-a-r-r-e-t-t. I'm before you speaking for myself. I 7 don't have any pictures. I'm live. After tonight the 8 debate will be over and at the close of business next 9 Friday EFSEC on the KVVPP will be officially closed.</p> <p>10 There are three main issues I would like summarize.</p> <p>11 Number one, in an evaluating wind farm 12 proposals there are two make or break details: location 13 and setbacks. Location should be of large land masses 14 with fewest possible residents such as the Wild Horse Wind 15 Farm project. Setback should be a minimum of 2,500 feet 16 from adjacent, nonparticipating property lines.</p> <p>17 Two, preemption. Horizon has requested 18 preemption for the second time. The Administrative Law 19 Judge Torem during the recent adjudicative hearings said 20 EFSEC has never been asked to exercise this power in 35 21 years. This is really a profound statement. Not once. 22 In 35 years EFSEC has successfully sited nuclear, coal, 23 gas electrical generation plants, plants that produce 24 thousands of megawatts reliably. The first wind farm 25 application comes along and throws the whole EFSEC process</p>

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<p>1 into question.</p> <p>2 I can only urge you, the Councilmembers, to</p> <p>3 vote no on this motion before you. Siting the</p> <p>4 controversial wind farm should not be the test case. To</p> <p>5 recommend overturning local land use decision would</p> <p>6 reverberate through every county in the state.</p> <p>7 Number three, energy policy. We need a</p> <p>8 comprehensive energy policy that makes sense. Not enough</p> <p>9 is being done to conserve electricity. Emphasis is only</p> <p>10 given to producing more.</p> <p>11 Here is a profound thought for you: a watt</p> <p>12 saved is another watt produced to be used somewhere else.</p> <p>13 If it were to up to me, I would be on all incandescent</p> <p>14 light bulbs that utilize fluorescent and emerging LED</p> <p>15 technologies. This simple and workable plan would</p> <p>16 conserve 40 percent of what we now produce. Just think</p> <p>17 about that.</p> <p>18 Finally, I hope the Councilmembers agree to</p> <p>19 let our elected county official decision to deny this</p> <p>20 project stand. Please recommend to the Governor no on</p> <p>21 preemption and a recommendation to deny this application.</p> <p>22 It's been a pleasure working with all of you</p> <p>23 on this long and protracted process. Thank you.</p> <p>24 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Garrett.</p> <p>25 Julie Emery is our last speaker.</p>	<p>1 beginning of the proceeding and as correctly noted by</p> <p>2 Mr. Garrett, if you still want to file your written</p> <p>3 comment, you can pick up one of these forms from staff.</p> <p>4 It will be accepted up to close of business next Friday,</p> <p>5 September 29, and will be read by the Councilmembers.</p> <p>6 Council deliberations will probably begin</p> <p>7 shortly after Thanksgiving, and we'll be back as I said at</p> <p>8 the beginning hopefully by the end of the year to announce</p> <p>9 a decision, and that decision is a recommendation to</p> <p>10 Governor Gregoire as to whether or not to preempt the</p> <p>11 Board of County Commissioners as it's been requested by</p> <p>12 the Applicant; and if so, or if not, whether or not the</p> <p>13 County will be recommending to the Governor whether or not</p> <p>14 this project should be built. So all of that will be</p> <p>15 decided and announced back here in Ellensburg. We'll have</p> <p>16 it well noticed in advance and hope to see all of you then</p> <p>17 so you will know the final ruling and recommendation of</p> <p>18 this EFSEC body. It will still be a little while after</p> <p>19 that before the Governor makes her final decision.</p> <p>20 Thank you for all your courtesy to each</p> <p>21 other and us through the process. We appreciate it, and</p> <p>22 thank you for your hospitality throughout.</p> <p>23 We're adjourned for the night.</p> <p>24 (Public Comment meeting adjourned at 8:21</p> <p>25 p.m.)</p>
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<p>1 COMMENTS BY JULIE EMERY</p> <p>2 My name is Julie Emery, E-m-e-r-y. I live</p> <p>3 on 1000 East Harvest Loop in Ellensburg, Washington. I am</p> <p>4 28 years old. I have an undergraduate degree in economics</p> <p>5 from the University of Minnesota and I have a master's</p> <p>6 degree in business administration from Seattle University.</p> <p>7 I grew up in Ellensburg and recently returned here with my</p> <p>8 husband.</p> <p>9 I support alternative energy sources as does</p> <p>10 my family. I don't support this project. The Kittitas</p> <p>11 County Commissioners voted unanimously against this</p> <p>12 project; yet the debate continues. In my opinion the</p> <p>13 behavior of Horizon is unwarranted. Instead of accepting</p> <p>14 the decision made by the governing body, our</p> <p>15 Commissioners, Horizon has continued to disrespect our</p> <p>16 county. Our County Commissioners are elected officials</p> <p>17 charged with advocating the opinion of our citizens. By</p> <p>18 attempting to override their decisions, Horizon is not</p> <p>19 respecting our county, our citizens, and our authority to</p> <p>20 govern Kittitas County. Thank you.</p> <p>21 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Emery.</p> <p>22 Are there any other speakers signed up,</p> <p>23 staff?</p> <p>24 Seeing none, it's now 8:25 and that's the</p> <p>25 end of the public comment. As was indicated at the</p>	<p>1 INDEX</p> <p>2 PUBLIC SPEAKERS PAGE</p> <p>3 Louise Genson 6</p> <p>4 Linda Schantz 8</p> <p>5 Janet Lee 10</p> <p>6 Dan Morgan 12</p> <p>7 Elizabeth Robertson 13</p> <p>8 Ben George 16</p> <p>9 Billy Robins 17</p> <p>10 Roger Clerf 19</p> <p>11 J.P. Roan 20</p> <p>12 R.B. Peterson 20</p> <p>13 Sandy Sandall 21</p> <p>14 Sean Jeffries 22</p> <p>15 Skip Littlefield 24</p> <p>16 Wayne Bell 25</p> <p>17 Kurt Linder 27</p> <p>18 Bernice Best 28</p> <p>19 Fred Brune 30</p> <p>20 Eric Prater 32</p> <p>21 Jaelle Downs 34</p> <p>22 James Markaret 34</p> <p>23 Jill Kuhn 36</p> <p>24 Holly Pinkart 37</p> <p>25 Andrew Wright 39</p>

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A F F I D A V I T

I, Shaun Linse, CCR, Certified Court Reporter,
do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript
prepared under my direction is a true and accurate
record of the proceedings taken on September 21, 2006,
in Ellensburg, Washington.

Shaun Linse, CCR
CCR NO. 2029